

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for obfuscating computer program instructions upon
2 disassembly, the method comprising
3 inserting an obfuscating instruction for causing a disassembler to
4 not disassemble one or more bytes subsequent to the obfuscating instruction; and
5 inserting a branch instruction to invoke execution of the one or
6 more bytes subsequent to the obfuscating instruction.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein two or more of the obfuscating
2 instructions are used adjacently to increase the number of the one or more bytes.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the obfuscating instruction is an
2 INT instruction.

- 1 4. The method of claim 3, including the step of
2 inserting the following code:
3 JMP \$+4
4 INT 35h

- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the steps are performed
2 manually.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the steps are performed by a
2 software process.

- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein parameters are supplied to the
2 software process, the method further comprising
3 supplying a parameter to the software process to specify the
4 frequency that an obfuscating instruction is to be inserted in a predetermined program.

- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the frequency is specified as a
2 number of instructions of the predetermined program between each insertion of the
3 obfuscating instruction.

1 9. A computer-readable media including the following instructions
2 executable by a processor:
3 an obfuscating instruction for causing a disassembler to not
4 disassemble one or more bytes subsequent to the obfuscating instruction; and
5 a branch instruction to invoke execution of the one or more bytes
6 subsequent to the obfuscating instruction.

1 10. A computer-readable media including the following
2 instructions executable by a processor:
3 JMP \$+4
4 INT 35h

1 11. A computer-readable media including the following
2 instructions executable by a processor:
3 JMP \$+4
4 INT 35h
5 INT 20h

1 12. An apparatus for obfuscating computer program instructions
2 upon disassembly, the apparatus comprising
3 an instruction for causing a disassembler to not disassemble one or
4 more bytes subsequent to the obfuscating instruction; and
5 a branch instruction to invoke execution of the one or more bytes
6 subsequent to the obfuscating instruction.